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SERVICES DIVISION

CHINA COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT: 1958

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SERVICES DIVISION

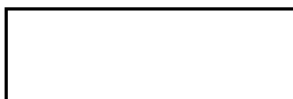
CHINA COMMITTEE

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The Committee held 29 regularly scheduled meetings during 1958 and several special meetings for which no formal minutes were prepared. In April it was decided to limit the number of regular meetings to two per month. The meetings during the year were devoted generally to the discussion of current topics concerning Communist China; to briefings by members and guests on research problems within their fields of responsibility; and occasionally to briefings by the Committee as a group for the benefit of personnel from other parts of the Agency.

Throughout 1958 more emphasis was given to the presentation and discussion of current items than to formal presentations by members and guests. The Committee held many informal discussions concerning accomplishments under the "leap forward" program in Communist China. Population and agriculture continued to receive a considerable amount of attention as did industrial developments and construction of railroad and highway facilities. Economic indicators of Chinese Communist capabilities and intentions in the Taiwan Straits received more attention than in past years because of the tense situation which developed in that area during the late summer and early fall. The formal presentations, which were designed primarily to increase the Committee's background knowledge of the area, included the following:

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"The Gross National Product of Communist China"

"Mission and Functions of the ORR Control Staff"

"Railroad Construction in Communist China"

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"The Reorganization of the Economic Ministries in Communist China"

"Mission and Functions of the Planning and Review Staff"

"The 'Two-Account' System Used in Communist China's Economic Planning"

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	"Problems Involved in the Selection of Statistical Data by FDD in Support of ORR"
	"Current Agricultural Problems in Communist China"
	"Research and the Industrial Register"
	"Priority Gaps in Intelligence"
	Duties of the Special Assistant to the AD/RR"

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During 1958 the Committee continued to engage primarily in the informal exchange of information and ideas. The Committee provides a place for analysts to discuss research techniques and methods, and to develop closer working relationships. The continued interest of both members and guests has been primarily responsible for the success of the Committee in 1958. Attendance by analysts from other divisions on a regular basis has been large and consistent.

Plans for 1959

During 1959 the Committee plans to proceed much as it has in past years. Selected background movies will be shown when available. Meetings will continue to be held twice a month, with emphasis divided about equally between discussion of current items and formal presentations.

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15 January 1959

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